[Translation]

Tea and Coffee Cultivation in M.P.

2810. SHRI MOHANLAL JHIKRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted an experiment with a view to assess the cultivation of tea and coffee in some areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage tea and coffee cultivation in, those areas where the climatic condition and land are found suitable for their cultivations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). In the case of tea, plantations on trial basis were raised in Sarguja and Bastar districts of Madhya Pradesh in the years 1979 and 1981. These trials proved to be unsuccessful. In the case of coffee, no such experiment has been conducted by the Coffee Board.

(c) With a view to promote tea cultivation in the non-traditional areas, the Tea Board has been extending financial assistance since 1982 under its New Tea Unit Financing Scheme, which envisages both loan and subsidy components. So far as coffee cultivation is concerned, keeping in view the global demand-supply position, Government is not encouraging plantation in new areas.

[English]

Exim Scrip Facility

2811. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Industry has suggested some changes in the Exim Scrip facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether with the introduction of Exim Scrip Scheme, Cash Compensatory Support was replaced by equivalent import licences;

(d) if so, the total amount of Cash Compensatory Support replaced during 1991-92;

(e) the rate of premium at present ruling in the import market;

(f) whether it is not recovered by the importers through the price they charge for the imported articles; and

(g) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Industry had suggested that, in the interest of further simplification of import procedures, there was need to extend the Exim scrip facility to all industrial materials. As announced in the Budget for 1992-93, all import needs will be met through the provisions contained in the Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System (LERMS). These provisions are consistent with suggestions made by the Industry Ministry.

(c) and (d). CCS was being given by way of refund of un-rebated taxes. With the suspension of CCS, Eximscrips at higher rates were allowed. Since CCS was dependent on the export performance and fulfilment

of the prescribed conditions by each individual exporter, the Govt, presently has no information about the amount of CCS which would have become due in the year 1991-92 after the a bolition of this scheme.

(e) to (g). The premium on Eximscrips to is determined by the market. forces. The Govt. has no role in it.

Appointment of Heads of Banks and Financial Institutions

2812. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some nationalised banks and financial institutions like Industrial Development Bank of India are without Chairmen/top heads of management;

(b) if so, the names thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to appoint the top heads of management in banks and financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The position of Chairman and Managing Director is vacant in two nationalised banks, viz. Vijaya Bank and Syndicate Bank. Government have already initiated steps to fill up the vacancies.

Export of Bidis

2813. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export of bidis made during the last six months; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the government to boost its export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Export of bidis during the last six months (September, 1991 to February, 1992) was 226 tons valued at Rs. 340 lakhs.

(b) Partial convertibility of Rupee and other liberalisation measures taken recently are expected to promote its export.

Loans given under IRDP

2814. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any reduction in the amount of loans distributed by the Nationalised banks under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for various purpose in each State;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the total amount of loans distributed by the nationalised banks under the said programmes from April to October 1991 as compared to the corresponding period during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). State-wise amount of loans disbursed by commercial banks under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during April to October of the financial years is given in the enclosed Statement. The data reporting system does not generate purpose-wise details of the loans disbursed. Except for a few States, the disbursements of loans under the programme have shown an increase.